

Service Date: March 29, 2000

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF The Application of Cut)	UTILITY DIVISION
Bank Gas Company for Authority to Increase)	
Charges for Natural Gas Service)	DOCKET NO. D99.12.256
)	FINAL ORDER NO. 6214a
)	

FINAL ORDER

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Cut Bank Gas Company (Applicant) applied to this Commission for an order authorizing an increase in the rates Applicant charges for natural gas service. The application sought authority to increase rates in order to reflect all cost increases resulting from Montana Power Company's (MPC) Docket No. D99.11.247.
2. On December 9, 1999, the Commission Order No. 6212 granted MPC an interim natural gas rate increase.
3. Order No. 6212 resulted in higher purchased gas costs to Applicant.
4. Order No. 6212c made the interim natural gas rate increase permanent

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Applicant is a "public utility" within the meaning of Section 69-3-101, MCA.
2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

ORDER

1. Applicant is hereby granted interim relief reflecting Findings of Fact in this order.
2. Such relief is to become effective for services rendered on and after December 10, 1999, and remain in effect until such time as this order is superceded.
3. The rates shall be collected upon a constant uniform cents per Mcf basis.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 28th day of March by a 5-0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

GARY FELAND, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathy Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)